



HR1552

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to honor our esteemed colleague,
4 State Representative Robert Flider, for his eight years as a
5 member of the Illinois General Assembly and thank him for his
6 many years of dedicated service to the people of Illinois; and

7 WHEREAS, Robert Flider was born on October 22, 1957; grew
8 up in Mattoon, and graduated from Mattoon High School in 1975,
9 where he met his wife, Jean; he graduated from Eastern Illinois
10 University with a degree in journalism in 1979 and spent three
11 years as a reporter in Eastern Illinois, beginning with the
12 Mattoon Journal-Gazette; he later worked for the Central
13 Illinois Public Service Company as a legislative analyst and
14 then joined Illinois Power as a government affairs
15 representative and project manager; and

16 WHEREAS, Representative Flider received a certificate of
17 business administration from the University of Illinois in
18 1999; attended the Program on Negotiation at Harvard Law School
19 and the EEI Executive Public Policy Institute in Washington,
20 D.C.; and

21 WHEREAS, Representative Flider began his career in public
22 office in 1991 as a member of the Mt. Zion Board of Trustees, a

1 post in which he served for four years; beginning in 1995, he
2 served eight years as mayor of the Village of Mt. Zion, in that
3 time developing a community-wide planning initiative called
4 "Mt. Zion 2000," and a comprehensive plan which led to the
5 construction of Goodwin Park, quality subdivisions, new
6 sidewalks, roads, and bike paths; and while mayor, he also
7 served on the Decatur-Macon County Economic Development
8 Commission and the Macon County Regional Planning Commission;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, In January 2003, Representative Flider was
11 appointed 101st District State Representative to complete the
12 term of former State Representative Julie Curry, representing
13 all or parts of Macon, Moultrie, and Shelby counties; he was
14 elected State Representative in 2004, and re-elected in 2006
15 and 2008; and

16 WHEREAS, Representative Flider has always made it a
17 priority to provide outstanding constituent services to the
18 residents of the 101st District; he has fought to secure State
19 funding for crucial community projects and infrastructure
20 improvements across Central Illinois; he loves to work with
21 local officials, business owners, and organizations, labor
22 members and unions to improve our schools, identify new markets
23 for Illinois agricultural products, create and retain jobs, and
24 fight for the rights and a fair wage for working families; and

1 WHEREAS, In 2005, to honor the service and achievements of
2 the late State Senator Penny Severns of Decatur, Representative
3 Flider passed legislation renaming the portion of Interstate 72
4 between Decatur and Springfield the Penny Severns Memorial
5 Highway; and

6 WHEREAS, Representative Flider spent his public service
7 career as a consumer advocate and was instrumental in passing a
8 law in 2007 providing \$1 billion in rate relief for electric
9 utility consumers in Illinois and creating a new State energy
10 procurement agency to bring down the high cost of energy for
11 customers; and

12 WHEREAS, Representative Flider has worked to strengthen
13 Illinois' schools and provide greater educational
14 opportunities for students; he secured additional funding for
15 local schools while authoring and passing into law the
16 Community Education Act, creating a Statewide community
17 service education program to encourage young students to become
18 more civic oriented; and

19 WHEREAS, Representative Flider recognized the importance
20 of helping businesses remain competitive in Central Illinois
21 and working with local business officials, local chambers of
22 commerce, and elected officials to find ways to stimulate

1 growth in the economy; he passed a law creating the Central
2 Illinois Economic Development Authority to provide resources
3 and expertise for long-term economic development plans in the
4 region; and

5 WHEREAS, Representative Flider has always been
6 civically-minded and involved, volunteering his time on behalf
7 of a number of community organizations, including the Decatur
8 Rotary and Lions Club; serving on the Board of Directors of the
9 Economic Development Corporation of Decatur and Macon County,
10 the United Way of Decatur/Macon County, the Downtown Decatur
11 Council, the Seniorama Committee, the Knights of Columbus,
12 Easter Seals of Central Illinois, and the Mid-Illinois Chapter
13 of the American Red Cross; he has coached youth sports and
14 taught Sunday school at Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Catholic
15 Church in Mt. Zion; and

16 WHEREAS, Although he has pursued his public service with
17 great passion, for Representative Flider the most important
18 thing in his life has always been his family; he and his wife,
19 Jean, are the proud parents of three children, Kylee, Lucas,
20 and Caitlyn, and the grandparents of Makenna; therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
22 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
23 thank State Representative Robert Flider for his service to the

1 people of Illinois and wish him much success in all of his
2 future endeavors; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
4 presented to State Representative Robert Flider as an
5 expression of our respect and esteem.